Union Sem. Va. Nov 6. 1856

Mr. A. A. Edwd. Taylor
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Princeton
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Union Sem^{y} Va. Nov 3rd 1856.

Mr A A Edwd Taylor.

My very dear Bro.

Your very kind & encouraging letter of 24th Oct is before me & as one of the committee of correspondence the pleasant task of reply has devolved upon me.
& trust that all of us can sympathize with your society & your Seminary in the two great bereavements of which you speak. The field now so white for the harvest truly made all that so fearful as Labourers to gather souls for Christ, but when God calls we must obey, & when He says to come come up higher, we who are left behind can only stand still & know that He is God, at the same time arising ourselves to greater energy & zeal in the service thus deprived of our fellow Labourers.
May God keep these afflictions to all of your hearts, filling you with more humility & with a stronger determination to work while your day lasts

I am happy to say that We have met under more joyous circumstances. No cloud of sorrow but the sunshine of Gods mercy seems smiling upon us. Our number is still small, but I can but hope that there is more spirituality & also more prayerfulness in the Sem than there was last session. The Students generally seem to be impressed with the solemnity & responsibility of a call to the gospel ministry. We have also been helped with the presence of Gods Spirit working in our midst to the salvation of some very precious souls, ie in the College recently. The Rev Dr Baker of Texas, an old & faithful Soldier of the cross, has been preaching for a short time in our midst, & by this means God has seen fit to call some 10 or 12 of the young men in college to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. The work too has not yet ceased as we humbly trust. It has been going on in a still quiet manner, with no extra amount of preaching except on Sunday evenings, & many

evince by their solemnity & thoughtfulness an earnest seeking after the way that leads to God. On saturday we had communion & 8 of the college Students united themselves with the church. Some of these we trust God will see fit to call as Laborers in his vineyard. I am not aware of the probable number of the college Students who design entering upon this glorious work, tho' I think there is quite a goodly number. There have been revivals also in many churches around us, & many of late have been called from death unto life.

Our Society seems also in a very flourishing condition. The members seem determined to be more punctual in the performance of their duties. Tho' I must confess that a real missionary spirit does not occupy our hearts as it should. We all hope that we are prepared to go where God directs, but I know of no one of our number who has determined to become a foreign Missionary. I am afraid that there

are fine heartfelt prayers offered in behalf of the Station. We try to pray for them but it is often lip-service. Let us try & be more earnest & feeling in our prayers, let us while praying "Thy will be done" try & do all we can to accomplish that will! Let us all strive to rededicate ourselves to God & humbly ask "Lord what wilt thou have me to do!"

I believe that this is all I have to communicate at present. Be assured that we shall always rejoice to hear from you in regard to the working of God in your midst. With christian love & christian sympathy I remain

Yours most truly

W W Cooper, for
Committee of Correspondence
Society of Enquiry.

N.B. Our P.O. is Hampden Sidney College.